STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS * DOCKET NO.

*

IN THE MATTER OF

...

WILLIE SCOTT WOODS * AGENCY TRACKING NO. 2017-1105

CHARGES

The Louisiana Board of Ethics voted on October 18, 2018, to and does hereby file the following charges:

1.

Willie Scott Woods was hired by the City of New Roads on November 12, 2014 as an accounts clerk earning an annual salary of approximately \$40,000.00.

2.

Willie Scott Woods' employment with the City of New Roads was terminated on August 3, 2017.

3.

As an account clerk, Willie Scott Woods was responsible for collecting traffic fines for the City of New Roads and the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office; collecting utility deposits and utility payments for the City of New Roads; and, collecting rental fees for the New Roads Civic Center. An independent audit conducted by the firm of Major, Morrison and David reported that \$17,317.96 had been misappropriated from March 2015 until August 1, 2017 relative to accounts assigned to traffic ticket fines for the City of New Roads and the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office, utility deposits and payments for the City of New Roads, and rental fees for the New Roads Civic Center.

5.

Willie Scott Woods received money to which he was not duly entitled for the performance of his duties and responsibilities as an account clerk for the City of New Roads.

6.

Willie Scott Woods signed a written confession admitting to the receipt of money from the City of New Roads, the Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office, and the New Roads Civic Center to which he was not duly entitled to receive for the performance of his job duties and responsibilities.

7.

La. R.S. 42:1111A(1)(a) provides:

No public servant shall receive anything of economic value, other than compensation and benefits from the governmental entity to which he is duly entitled, for the performance of the duties and responsibilities of his office or position.

8.

La. R.S. 42:1112A provides:

No public servant, except as provided in R.S. 42:1120, shall participate in a transaction in which he has a personal substantial economic interest of which he may be reasonably expected to know involving the governmental entity.

Based on the foregoing facts, Willie Scott Woods, while serving as an account clerk for the City of New Roads, violated La. R.S. 42:1111A(1)(a) for receiving a thing of economic value other than compensation and benefits for the performance of the duties and responsibilities of his office or position, when he misappropriated money from the accounts for traffic ticket fines for the City of New Roads and the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office, utility deposits and payments for the City of New Roads, and rental fees for the New Roads Civic Center.

10.

Based on the foregoing facts, Willie Scott Woods in his capacity as an account clerk for the City of New Roads, violated La. R.S. 42:1112A for participating in transactions in which he had a personal substantial economic interest of which he reasonably expected to know involving the City of New Roads, when he misappropriated money from the accounts for traffic ticket fines collected for the City of New Roads and the Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office, utility deposits and payments collected for the City of New Roads, and rental fees collected for the New Roads Civic Center.

11.

In accordance with La. R.S. 42:1141C(3)(b)(iv), the Board designates Gregory L. Thibodeaux and Tracy Barker as the Board's trial attorneys in this matter.

WHEREFORE, the Louisiana Board of Ethics requests that the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (a) conduct a hearing on the foregoing charges; (b) determine that Willie Scott Woods violated La. R.S. 42:1111A(1)(a); (c) determine that Willie Scott Woods violated La. R.S.

42:1112A; and, (d) assess appropriate penalties in accordance with the recommendation of the Louisiana Board of Ethics to be submitted at the hearing.

Chairman, Louisiana Board of Ephics

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CERTIFICATE:

RESPONDENT:

Willie Scott Woods

574 Curet Street

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Gregory L. Thibodeaux

Trial Attorney